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dereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient ostage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 30, 2002.

Dawn M. Berry

Name of Person signing Certificate

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED In re Application of: Koji KISHI et al. TECH CENTER 1600/2900 Group Art Unit: 1623 Application No.: 09/914,552 Examiner: Unassigned Filed: August 30, 2001 METHOD FOR ASSAYING BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COMPONENT For: PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, after the title, insert as a new paragraph:

This application claims the benefit of earlier filed International Application No. PCT/JP00/01172 filed February 29, 2000.

REMARKS

No questions of new matter are raised by the above amendment. Entry of the above amendment is therefore respectfully requested.